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XXII.16 On the help that the state can get from bankers

- The Spirit of Law - Book XXII. On laws in their relation to the use of money -

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XXII.16 On the help that the state can get from bankers

The purpose of bankers is to change money, and not to lend it. If the prince uses them only to change his money, as he has only major business, the slightest profit he allows them for their remittances becomes a considerable matter ; and if they ask him for large profits, he can be sure it is a flaw of administration. When on the contrary he uses them to advance him money, their art consists in obtaining big profits on their money without incurring the accusation of usury.